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# ENG 2901-001: Structure of English

Duangrudi Suksang

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## Eng 2901 (Structure of English)

Spring 2016

Section 1: MWF 9-9:50 CH 3160

Section 2: MWF 1-1:50 p.m. CH 3160

Dr. Duangrudi Suksang

Office: 3335 Coleman Hall

Office Hours: MWF 10-11:50 a.m.; MF 2-3:30 p.m.; W 2-4 and by appointment

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Each section of Eng 2901 is designed to help you learn to **analyze** the basic components of the English language, i.e., words, phrases and sentences, and to understand the rules that govern their internal structure. We will discuss various aspects of the English language—slang, jargon, euphemism, standard and nonstandard English, and sexism in language. We will also learn how to diagram phrases and sentences. This class will enhance your understanding of the complexity of the English language and your ability to communicate your thoughts/ideas in writing clearly and effectively. You will also be able to look at your sentences more analytically.

### Prerequisite: Eng 1002G.

TEXTS: Martha Kolln, Understanding English Grammar (7th edition)

Cook and Suter, The Scope of Grammar

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: This course is not a correspondence course; therefore, regular attendance and active participation are required. According to the 2015-2016 online catalog,

Students are expected to attend class meetings as scheduled. When an absence does occur, **the student is responsible for the material covered during the absence** (emphasis added). When possible, the student should notify the instructor in advance of an anticipated absence.

Instructors will grant make-up privileges (when make-up is possible) to students for **properly verified absences due to illness, emergency, or participation in an official University activity**; and such absences will not militate against students in classes in which attendance is used directly in determining final grades (emphasis added). It is the student's responsibility to initiate plans for make-up work and to complete it promptly. If in the instructor's judgment the duration or number of absences renders make-up unfeasible, the instructor may contact the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Department Chairperson to determine an appropriate action.

In addition, the 2015-2016 online catalog includes the following sentences regarding absences: "If a student establishes a record or pattern of absences of concern to the instructor, the instructor may ask of the Vice President for Student Affairs that inquiries concerning the absences be made. The Vice President for Student Affairs also serves as the University contact person when catastrophic events result in extended student absences."

**Unless you have received my consent prior to your absence and you are able to provide me with documented evidence showing that your absence is legitimate and excusable, you are not allowed to make up tests, graded in-class exercises and/or quizzes.**

**Every excused absence (i.e., an official university activity, emergency or medical illness) must be supported by written evidence from a proper authority, which you will present to me upon your return to class.**

**If you are to take part in an official university activity, you must also give me in advance a letter explaining the purpose and date of your anticipated absence.**

**If you have an emergency or if you are sick, you or someone you know must e-mail me BEFORE class begins on the day of your absence. If you notify me of your absence caused by an emergency or illness after class begins, that absence will not be considered**

an excused absence. You must also show me documented evidence supporting your absence upon your return.

An e-mail notification or an in-class personal notification is appreciated, but it is not considered an automatically legitimate excuse. Remember it is **your responsibility** to contact either your classmates or me to find out what you have missed and/or if there have been any changes made on the original syllabus during your absence.

**\*\*If you think this course is too easy for you, you may want to consider a different course that is more challenging. Your negative attitude will prevent you from wanting to contribute positively to your classmates' learning experience and from coming to class.**

**\*\*If you have more than 4 unexcused absences, 10 points will be deducted from the total score at the end of the semester before I convert it to a percentage.** After your second unexcused absence, you must see me to discuss your performance in the class.

**Don't forget to sign your name on the attendance sheet that I will pass around at the beginning of each class period.**

It is very important that you participate actively and seriously in all class activities. Remember that nobody knows everything and that everybody has something valuable to offer. We can have fun learning from each other and growing together as a group.

#### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. You are expected to participate in all in-class activities.
2. **You are expected to keep up with reading assignments and be ready to participate in class discussion. Reading your text(s) before coming to class enables you to understand what is being discussed in class better.**
3. You will take several tests throughout the semester. You are required to take all the tests. These tests will be announced ahead of time. **If you are unable to take a test as scheduled and your absence is excusable, you must let me know immediately so that I can set up a different time for you. I will not get in touch with you. It is your responsibility to get in touch with me.**

**I will tell you what you get on each test, but you will get your test back only after all the students in both sections have taken the test. You will not get your "final" test back. If you do not contact me before the test date, you will not be allowed to take the test. No make-up test will be given after I have returned the test to the class.** Your failure to contact me before the test date suggests to me that you do not care or are not concerned enough about the test.

After you get the test back, go over it carefully. If you have any questions about anything on the test, please feel free to talk to me immediately. **You are to save all the tests as well as quizzes and keep track of all your grades.** If you have any questions about your grade(s), you must bring your test(s)/quiz(zes) with you so that I can answer your question(s) and/or correct your grade(s).

4. **Quizzes (30 extra points):** These quizzes are optional and are designed to help you review what you have already learned in class. You will be given 6 unannounced quizzes (5 points each). These points will be added to the total score before I convert it to a percentage. Here are the stipulations on the quizzes:

- A. Quizzes will not be announced ahead of time.
- B. I will not tell you what is going to be on each quiz.
- C. I can give a quiz at the beginning of the period or toward the end of the period.
- D. If you miss a quiz because of your late arrival, you will not be allowed to take it later.
- E. I will give you only 15 minutes to work on a quiz. If you come to class late, you will have less time to work on a quiz.
- F. If you are sick or have an emergency, you must show me officially documented evidence or other legitimate documented evidence before I allow you to take the quiz that you have missed. If you do not have properly documented evidence, you are not allowed to make up a quiz.
- G. These quizzes are optional. If you do not care about extra points, you do not have to take them.

#### **GRADING POLICY:**

**There are 6 tests altogether. The sixth test is your "final." You are allowed to drop the lowest grade among the five grades you have received before the final. However, if you fail to take any of the tests, you will naturally receive zero for that test. This grade (zero) will not be dropped. Your sixth ("final") grade will not be dropped even if it is the lowest.**

Your course grade is based on the number of points you have accumulated. Here is the grading scale for this course:

90-100 %	A
80-89 %	B
70-79 %	C
60-69 %	D
Below 60 %	F

**You must fulfill all the course requirements and get at least 60 % in order to be considered for a passing grade (D). If you choose to remain in this class, I assume that you accept my policies and course requirements.**

**If you have documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.**

**The Student Success Center offers assistance to enable you to reach your academic goals. To make an appointment, you should go to 9<sup>th</sup> Street Hall, Room 1302 or call (217)- 581-6696.**

I also am here to help you succeed in your academic pursuit. I am willing and ready to help you; therefore, please do not hesitate to talk to me. I believe in openness; feel free to discuss your problems with me so that we can solve them together. **Do not wait until it is too late before coming to see me for help.** Come by my office (3335 CH) during the office hours, or make an appointment with me after class, or e-mail me to set up a time that is convenient for you. **I welcome your suggestions and will take them into consideration. Please do not give me suggestions in your course evaluation at the end of the semester. It is too late.**

I look forward to getting to know you, learning from you, and working with you. I hope we have a good semester together. Welcome back!

**Eng 2901: Sections 1 and 2 Spring 2016 Dr. Suksang**

**Syllabus** : This syllabus may have to be adjusted at times. It is your responsibility to check with me or your classmates to find out if there have been any changes made on the original syllabus during your absence. **Read assigned selections before each class meeting.** Do let me know if my explanation is not clear. If not, I will assume that everything is clear to you. If you don't ask questions, I will also assume that you understand everything. You must let me know what I can do to help you.

**You have to be willing to work hard. This class covers a lot of topics and concepts in such a short period of time. I will give you answers to the exercises if there is not enough time to go over them in class. This semester is my last semester, and I definitely want everyone to pass this class with flying colors. I am happy to work with you to help you succeed, but I cannot do it alone.**

Week#1

M Jan 11

Introduction

A request: I am interested in getting to know you better. I hope that you would be willing to allow me to get to know you by telling me something about yourself in an informal letter. You can talk about your hopes, goals and needs for this course: what you would like to get out of it, what you can contribute, what you hope will not happen, and what makes you nervous or anxious about the class. You can tell me what you know about grammar and what your strengths and weaknesses are. You can e-mail your letter to me. If you do not wish to let me get to know you, you do not have to write this informal letter.

Language Variation: Watch American Tongues on video tape.

W Jan 13

Discuss the video tape and Kolln, Chapter 1 (3-13), Chapter 14 ("Using Gender Appropriately" 354-358); Cook, Chapter 2 "Variety, Variety."

F Jan 15

**Morphemes**: Kolln, Chapter 10 (242-250); Cook, Chapter 3 (29-32)

Week#2

M Jan 18

**Dr. King's birthday—No class**

W Jan 20

Morphemes

F Jan 22

**The Form Classes**: Nouns, Verbs, Adverbs, Adjectives--Kolln, Chapter 11 (254-274), Linking Verbs (32-33), Intransitive and Transitive Verbs (35-46); Cook, 160-2 (Nouns); Cook, Chapter 5 (Be); Cook, Chapter 14 (Transitive & Intrans. Verbs); Cook, Chapter 15 (183-4, Linking Verbs)

Week#3

M Jan 26

The Form Classes

W Jan 28

The Form Classes

F Jan 30

The Form Classes

Week#4

M Feb 1

**The Structure Classes**: Determiners, Qualifiers, Prepositions, Conjunctions, Auxiliaries, Interrogatives, Expletives, Particles--Kolln, Chapter 12 (280-301), Chapter 3 (67-68--Modals), Chapter 4 (101-104--There), Chapter 9 (223-232--Coordination); Cook, Chapters 8 (Modals), 13 (Determiners), 17 (Prepositions & Particles), 18 (Expletives)

W Feb 3

The Structure Classes

F Feb 5

**Test 1: Morphemes and the Form Classes**Week#5

M Feb 8

The Structure Classes

W Feb 10

The Structure Classes

F Feb 12

**Lincoln's birthday—No class**Week#6

M Feb 15

**Expanding the Main Verb and Tenses**--Kolln, Chapter 3 (60-69), Tense and Aspect (70-72); Cook, Chapter 4

W Feb 17

Expanding the Main Verb and Tenses

F Feb 19

**Make-up test for Test#1**Week#7

M Feb 22

**Pronouns**: Kolln, Chapter 13 (305-318); Cook, Chapter 12

W Feb 24

Pronouns

F Feb 26

**Test 2: The Structure Classes and Tenses Pronouns**Week#8

M Feb 29

Pronouns

W Mar 2

**Syntax**: Sentence Patterns--Kolln, Chapter 2 (17-55); Cook, Chapters 3 (32-38), 14, 15, 19

F Mar 4

Syntax: Sentence Patterns

Week#9

M Mar 7	Diagramming--Kolln, 52-55; Chapter 9 (232); Cook, Appendix 2
W Mar 9	Diagramming
F Mar 11	Make-up test for Test #2

**Week#10 March 14-18 Spring Break**Week#11

M Mar 21	Transforming the Basic Patterns: The Passive Voice--Kolln, 75-85, 336-339; Cook, Chapter 6
W Mar 23	Transforming the Basic Patterns--Kolln, Chapter 4 (92-106), Sentence Transformations (332-333); Cook, Chapters 9, 10 & 11
F Mar 25	Test 3: Sentence Patterns, Diagramming, and Pronouns

Week#12

M Mar 28	Transforming the Basic Patterns
W Mar 30	Transforming the Basic Patterns
F Apr 1	Test 4: The Passive Voice and Transforming the Basic Patterns

Week#13

M Apr 4	<b>Modifiers of the Verb: Adverbials</b> --Kolln, Chapter 5 (114-130), "Participles as Adverbials" (160), "The Shifting Adverbials" (341-346); Cook, Chapter 19 (Clauses), 222-223 (Adverbial clauses)
W Apr 6	Adverbials
F Apr 8	No class— <b>Extra Credit:</b> You are to attend one of the English Studies conference sessions and write at least 250 words about the session for 10 points. <b>You can e-mail your submission to me or turn in a hard copy by Monday, 11 April.</b> If you do not turn your submission in by the due date, I will assume that you do not want the extra points. I will not accept late submissions. I will not print out your e-mail to give it back to you. If you turn in a hard copy, you will get it back. I will record your grade and what you have written on.

Week#14

M Apr 11	Adverbials
W Apr 13	<b>Modifiers of the Noun: Adjectivals</b> --Kolln, Chapter 6 (136-170); Cook, Chapter 19 (Clauses) 224-245 (Relative clauses)
F Apr 15	Adjectivals

Week#15

M Apr 18	Adjectivals
W Apr 20	<b>The Noun Phrase Functions: Nominals</b> --Kolln, Chapter 7 (176-198); Cook, Chapter 16 (Gerunds and Infinitives), Chapter 19 (Clauses) 223-224 (Nominal clauses)
F Apr 22	Test 5: Adjectivals and Adverbials

Week#16

M Apr 25	Nominals
W Apr 27	Nominals
F Apr 29	Nominals

**FINAL EXAM :** The final exam will focus on nominals, but you will also be asked to identify adverbial and adjectival structures.

**Final Exam Schedule:** Section 1: Monday, 2 May: 2:45-4:45 p.m.  
Section 2: Wednesday, 4 May: 12:30-2:30 p.m.